



# 2019 Green Tier Annual Report

## **Executive Summary**

Yunker Industries, Inc. of Elkhorn, WI is a proud Green Tier 1 participant since November 2017. Yunker is a WBE family owned established print service provider with over 70 years of experience. We design, engineer, manufacture and implement custom signage and décor programs for retailers and brands. Our primary business segments include: Creative and Industrial Design, Prototyping, Large Format Printing and Fabrication, Program Management and Nationwide Installation, Warehousing and Fulfillment, Online Reporting and Customer Support.

We continually investigate all technology and equipment offerings for process/quality/speed enhancements and invest in those that add value to our core competencies, offer new or better products, quality and value to our team/customers and strategic growth for our organization.

Beginning January 2018 Yunker is operating all business out of their state of the art headquarters facility in Elkhorn, WI. All 105 employees under one roof have proven that this was the perfect move for us, not to mention the cost savings within our carbon footprint.

# 2018 Objectives and CIP Results

Our goal for 2018 was to reduce our kWhs usage by at least 20%. Unfortunately, we did not reach our goal and found we actually had an increase of approx. 9%.

Why didn't we reach our goal?

This was a cold winter in Wisconsin! The 2018 average temperatures were lower than expected and mostly averaged in the 40's which was a 10 degree difference than 2017.

Let's take a look at all the positive accomplishments this goal produced:

- Installed LED lighting in over 30% of the facility.
- Installed motion sensors in low traffic production areas and all offices.
- Installed locked covers on all thermostats.
- Temperature control is managed by VP of Operations on a cloud based portal and adjusted as needed according to the weather.

The committee has agreed that this initiative is an important part of our organization and will continue to monitor and measure this metric moving forward. We will be reviewing the numbers in 2020 to get a better comparison.

Since our move, we have achieved some positive results and have identified those that need improvements. When a change like this occurs it is sometimes difficult to measure specific results so we are definitely looking forward to comparing 2019 to the last 2 years during the move to evaluate the ultimate cost savings. We will continue to evaluate other energy efficiency and clean energy strategies.





# **Environmental Performance**

#### **Transportation:**

Carbon Neutral Shipping – As of Q1 2018 we became a Carbon Neutral Shipper. This means we care about climate change and want others to be aware of this commitment. UPS's carbon neutral option supports projects that offset the emissions of the shipment's transport.

• Earned Carbon Neutral Certificate in November 2018 – UPS mitigated 31.99 Metric tons of Co2e during the period of October 2017 – September 2018.

# Below is a list of our 2018 objectives and next steps:

- Reduce landfilled solid waste and evaluate zero-waste-to-landfill certification.
  - As of Q1 of 2019 we are still working towards achieving this goal. We have continued to review this status and as of 2017 came in at 60.51%. To be zero landfill the US requirement is 80% and Europe is 90%. To reach this goal Yunker will look at better ways to manage unrecyclable sheet good waste by using as much of it as possible in a creative way and will look at achieving Q4 of 2019.
- Reduce hazardous waste to achieve Very Small Quantity Generator status. (See update below in 2019)
- Increase recycling through use of additional recyclable print material and employee education.
  - Continue to share, educate and involve our staff with updates at our monthly birthday/anniversary celebrations.
  - Continue to share local community education and recycling events such as Earth Day, shred days, clean sweep and other recycling events.
  - Invite local companies and our vendors to come and talk to our employees about the sustainable efforts, products, etc. that they offer.
- Research and discuss converting the Elkhorn facility to LED lighting including our parking lot.
  - We have completed the LED conversion in the following areas of our facility:
    - Reception area
    - Some office areas and breakroom
    - Installed auto on/off movement sensors in all offices, breakroom & conference rooms.
    - We are currently working on movement sensors in the inventory warehouse area, test sensors are being looked into for evaluation.
- Research facility water usage, including upgrades to restroom fixtures.
  - Installed water saver aerators to all faucets

# 2019 Goals, Objectives and Community Involvement

Since our move to our new location we are still working on energy saving solutions such as installing lighting sensors in less traffic areas, looking at our equipment in production and making sure we have the most efficient setup.





All of these efforts and more all contribute to the outcome of future goals:

- Expand the information about Sustainability on our company website to include past and future goals and other projects we are working on.
  - Currently working on website upgrade to be completed Q3 of 2019.
- Create a reference guide of all our materials and describe the end of life implications to share with employees, clients & vendors to be completed Q2 of 2019.
- Continue to work with cleaning company to ensure using earth friendly products.
- Research and discuss converting the rest of the Elkhorn facility to LED lighting including our parking lot.
  - We installed LED lighting in the parking lot and receiving bids to complete Q4 of 2019 if budget allows.
- Consider installing bottle filling station(s) by Q4 of 2019

For several years we have maintained Small Quantity Generator (SQG) at our Lake Geneva facility. In 2016, we began to look at opportunities to consolidate our two facilities into one for overall efficiencies and found a new location in Elkhorn, WI. We were able to renovate that existing building into a state of the facility and in the process, also upgraded our digital equipment. We moved all operations and majority of staff to the new location and continued to run our screen print operation out of our Lake Geneva facility. In 2017, we set the goal to reach Very Small Quantity Generator (VSQG) in our Lake Geneva facility. Over that year, we monitored our screen demands, the cost of continuing to operate the equipment and our sustainability efforts within our organization. We were able to move the majority of all customer screen printed product to the digital presses in our Elkhorn facility and as a result, we made the decision to discontinue operations in the Lake Geneva facility as of June, 2018. With this decision, we eliminated all hazardous waste immediately from our facility. We also reduced our carbon footprint from having to transfer materials/screen print product back and forth between the Lake Geneva and Elkhorn facilities. We also made every effort to recycle all used equipment and obsolete material. The building was sold and we now run all operations out of Elkhorn, WI.

One of our 2019 CIP Goals is to collect plastic bags, skid wrap, etc. to be then given to the Lions Club of Elkhorn. In 2018 we collected 215lbs with a goal this year of over 300lbs. These efforts of collection are then rewarded a very nice bench from Trex Composite Decking and placed within our community. We feel that this will be an ongoing project moving forward to provide seating in parks, senior centers, schools, libraries and other areas.

In 2018 we filled a truck for the future program projects of Destination Imagination.

## https://www.destinationimagination.org/

DI organization is a global educational nonprofit dedicated to inspiring the next generation of innovators, leaders and creative problem solvers. They design and engineer all their ideas using resources given to them by companies like Yunker. This effort allowed us to put our scrap and other materials to use to enrich the lives of youth within our community and just another way to reuse, repurpose and recycle!







As of 2019 we started a new program in hopes to create employee engagement and an extra step to share our corporate sustainability values and goals. Take 5 for Sustainability Program – An opportunity for employees to share ideas they may have for future goals and objectives to improve products, process and services. We continue to share our sustainability message to employees at our monthly birthday and anniversary celebration.

## Internal/External EMS (SMS) Audit

In March 2019 we went through an extensive external audit performed by an approved auditor partnered with SGIA. During this audit there were no non-conformances found. This type of audit takes place every 2 years and our next one will be required in March 2021.

In addition to the above we need to perform an internal EMS audit. This is to be performed at least one time prior to September 2019 and annually thereafter. As a bonus of being both SGP and Green Tier certified, we can use our approved external audit as performed by SGP for the Green Tier audit.

Some recommendations that were mentioned from our SGP auditor in 2019 were:

- Expand the information about Sustainability on our company website to include past and future goals and other projects we are working on.
  - Currently working on website upgrade to be completed Q2 of 2019.
- Create a reference guide of all our materials and describe the end of life implications to share with employees, clients & vendors to be completed Q2 of 2019.
- Continue to work with cleaning company to ensure using earth friendly products.

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Report Date (draft):	Report Date (final):	SGP Certification Number:
March 22, 2019		
March 22, 2019 Audit Date(s): March 19-20, 2019	Auditor: Wendy Nadan	





## Stakeholder Involvement:

Our continued efforts and community involvement are supported by our stakeholders. We continue to work with our vendors and suppliers to look at ways to create sustainable improvements where we can and implement as budgets allow. The most important part of this journey is that we are a part of something that makes a difference in our environment and has a positive impact on our organization, our community and the lives of the future.

## WDNR Relationship:

Yunker Industries is pleased with the continuous communications that the WDNR offers via email and newsletters. We look forward to working together more in 2019 and find ways to better the environment and create community engagement.

## **Conclusion:**

As we mentioned above being a sustainable company is not only important to us but effects the future environment we live and work in. Yunker cares about that and will continue to make efforts to partner with our clients, vendors and local groups to continue this movement forward.